**FAITH UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**4543 DOUGLAS ROAD**

**TOLEDO, OH 43613**

**NOVEMBER 2022**

 **FAITH CHRONICLES**

 **Faith United Lutheran** **Church**

 **4543 Douglas Road – Toledo, Ohio 43613**

 **419-473-1369**

**Email: faithunitedlutherantoledo@gmail.com**

**Website:** [**www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com**](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) **or** [**www.faithunited.church**](http://www.faithunited.church)

Pastor: Pr. Tom Schaeffer Worship Services: Sunday – 10:00 am

Secretary: Jan Weatherly Choir Director: Rick Napierala

Organist: Patricia Haase

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

*In case of an emergency, you may reach Pastor Tom at 419-481-3891 or Donna Morrin at 419-290-8997*

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**A Message from our Pastor**



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Recently, on October 22, I was asked by our bishop to attend a synod event in Port Clinton. The purpose of my attendance was to share about the Fresh Expression I lead here at Faith United. So, on Saturday afternoon I shared information about this ministry with about 50 people.

Some months ago, I shared with you the definition of a Fresh Expression. But now that we have two of them as part of the ministry of Faith United, I thought it was time to circle back around and talk about them again. Let me start with what a Fresh Expression is:

Simply put, Fresh Expression means a fresh expression of church. It is a way in which church is taken to unchurched people, rather than expecting unchurched people to come to church. So, what does it look like. Well, every Fresh Expression is different. The idea, however, is simple. Do what you are already doing, do what you love, and invite God to join you doing it.

It is no surprise to anyone at our church that I love beer. So, my Fresh Expression is called Beer Nerds. We get together at a pub for a 4-flight beer tasting led by me. We started with two couples from our church. Now we usually have 8 in attendance, but we have had as many as 20. Marcia Conn also leads a Fresh Expression organized around her love of art. Again, there are a few church members involved. But the main goal is to build relationship with people who are not part of our church.

This last point is why Fresh Expressions are not advertised in the church. The idea is to have just a few church members who were invited to help start the ministry. If the group is made up of primarily church members, it becomes more difficult for people from outside the church to join.

As the group grows and relationships deepen, there is increased opportunity to have deeper, more significant conversations. It is never hidden that the group is organized by Christians. But the Christian leaders of the group must be sensitive to the spiritual openness of others. That’s why any talk about faith is very lightweight at the beginning.

So, what do you already do? What do you already love? How about golf? Awesome. Start a Fresh Expression around golf. How about a women’s tea that meets weekly at a different tea/coffee shop each time in an effort to find the best tea in Toledo? Do you like fishing? Hikes? Mexican food? Any of these things and many more could be a Fresh Expression.

If you would be interested in starting one, there are a few things I would recommend. First, talk to me. I can help you with your idea. Secondly, I have a small book I can give you to read. It is a how-to book for starting Fresh Expressions called The 21st Century Christian by Michael Beck.

Finally, please know that this is a model of which our synod and our bishop are highly supportive. To that end, our bishop has organized a training called The Innovator Learning Academy. This opportunity is free. It will cost you nothing except your time. It is an 18-month process of mission, immersion, and learning. You will receive monthly coaching as well as take part in retreats and excursions to sites who model these new forms of ministry. I went through the first 18-month process. Marcia is currently in the second. They are taking names for the third right now. This is a fantastic opportunity because Michael Beck, the author of the book, is brought in as our instructor. If you are interested, please let me know ASAP. SIGN UP IS ENDING IMMINENTLY.

Having said that, let me be clear that attending the academy is not in any way a prerequisite for starting a Fresh Expression. I can definitely help you do that. The academy will just give you that extra ‘umph’ to do it.

Many believe that this is what church and missions look like in the 21st century. The beautiful thing is just how easy it is to do. Remember. Do what you are already doing. Do what you love. Invite God to join you.

United in Faith,

Pastor Tom

**WHAT’S NEW AT FAITH UNITED**

**Facebook Page:** If you haven’t been to Faith United’s Facebook page yet, please visit there (and Like us.) Anyone is welcome to share photos of church activities, say hello to one another and just keep up on news. You can also share upcoming events with your Friends. It is called Faith United Lutheran Church.

**Web Site** – The church’s Web site, [www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com](http://www.faithunitedlutherantoledo.com) or www.faithunited.church, is a great source for information for you and you can tell friends to check out the site to find out what is happening at Faith United!

**Church Office Hours** –The church office is fully open to visitors again. Office hours are 10:00 – 3:00 M-F. Like everything else connected to Covid-19, this could change, so if in doubt, call the church office.

**Church Supplies** – the church is always in need of paper towels, toilet paper, and hand soap. You can bring supplies to the church office or drop off on the next Sunday we are together.

**Fishbowl** – For the next few months the money collected in the fishbowl will be used to offset the expenses for the family fun nights planned by the Outreach committee.

**WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)**

*Remembering Our Spiritual Ancestors*

God of our ancestors we gather to our hearts all those who have influenced our lives with their love and goodness. Although they have passed on to the other side of life, their lives continue to affect who we

are and what we do. Like the sound of a bell resounding in the welcome air, so has the goodness of these holy ones resonated in our lives. Thank you for these ancestors and the bond we have with them.

WELCA especially remembers all the faithful women who have gone before us as a “great cloud of witnesses” . In their foot steps we strive to “mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ and live out that faith through service.

Our service includes Mission:Action Projects. These are outreach projects that serve those in need in our communities. Our 4th quarter Mission:Action project is the “Angel Tree”. Included in this project is a collection of hats, scarfs, mittens, gloves, and socks for all ages. In addition, as Christmas approaches, we will reach out to a family in need and support that family as well.

Continuing our Bible Study, Jesus and Nature:Teachers of Faith, we will meet Saturday, November 5 at 10:00 am in the lounge. All are welcome!

December 6 - ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT, an evening for women and guests to begin preparing our hearts to welcome “God with us”, Jesus! Please register your attendance on the sign-up sheet in the narthex by NOVEMBER 20. Contact Sue Gries if you will host a table.

Living Awake,

Cindy Sauppé

**FROM THE OUTREACH COORDINATOR**

I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Trunk or Treat event on 10/23. The large number of cars in the lot was a testament to our desire to show the community God’s work in their midst. The turnout of children was amazing, far more than anticipated. I would like to especially thank Sheryl Johnson. I was unable to attend due to an old war wound acting up, so Sheryl stepped up and took on the task of coordinating the entire event. She made the signs that were out on the front lawn, which many of the parents bringing their children said that was got them to stop in. She organized everyone from Faith United, got the cookie and cider table up and running, and took care of everything. Thank you, Sheryl.

At the time of this writing, there are still a couple days until the Around the World Dinner on Friday, 10/28. If you recall, we did this type of dinner once before, and the food everyone brought in was so good, and different. I’m hoping for the same this week. A few folks signed up on the sheet in the Narthex, so there should be a good representation of foods from different countries to sample.

Because of the holidays and other more important events, in November, December, and January, Family Fellowship Night will not return until February 2023. There are some big plans for next year, so be watching for those announcements.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jan Weatherly, Outreach/Evangelism Coordinator

**Spaghetti Dinner – Nov. 12**

The Toledo Choral Society will hold a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at Faith United on Nov. 12 beginning at 5:00. Our own Italian Chef – Lucy Young, will make the spaghetti again, and you all know how good her spaghetti is! The dinner is intended to raise money to defray the costs of running that large organization, and it will help pay for the Steinway Grand Piano that we are fortunate to have in our sanctuary. A free will offering will be accepted. Hope to see you there!

**From the Office Secretary**

There is not much new happening in the office. I’m just gearing up for Advent and Christmas. These are very busy times, so I will probably be reaching out for help during those times.

Please remember to fill out attendance cards every Sunday. These are being posted, so, as Donna mentioned, the church can get a better handle on our membership.

There is a good possibility that I will be taking a few days of vacation around Christmas. I don’t have specific dates just yet, but there will be a need for some folks to answer phones and such while I’m out. I will be sending out more information about this as my plans are firmed up.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jan Weatherly, Office Secretary

**Thanksgiving Food Collection**

On Sunday, Nov. 20, in addition to our regular offering, we ask that you bring non-perishable food items (canned, boxed or packets) to be donated to Feed Your Neighbor. We will bring this forward at the time of the offering. At Thanksgiving we give thanks to God for all that he provides for us, and the need is great, so be as generous as you are able!

**Turkeys on the Run**

Every year, Augsburg Lutheran prepares 750+ Thanksgiving meals for those in need. There are many ways we can help them. We can donate specific foods that they need, we can help prepare the food during that week, help package up the meals, and deliver these meals. Financial contributions are also gratefully accepted. If you would like to help in any way, speak to Donna Morrin and she can give you contact information for the chairperson at Augsburg.

**Decorating the Church for Christmas**

On Sunday, Nov. 27, after worship, we will decorate the church for Christmas. Please stay and help prepare our sanctuary and other rooms for Christmas. It usually takes around an hour if we have lots of help!!!

**Faith United Members in Concert**

Many members of our church participate in community musical organizations. The following is a list of concerts, dates and times of their upcoming Christmas concerts.

**Toledo Choral Society – The Messiah.** Performances are at the Valentine Theater on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 7pm, and Sunday, Dec. 4 at 2pm. Tickets are $35 if you purchase from one of the following people: Leslee Fowler, Peg Hinds, Ryanne White or Lucy Young. You can also buy them online or at the door for a slight surcharge.

**Toledo Choral Society Christmas Concert** – Fri., Dec. 16 at St. Luke’s Lutheran in Temperance at 7:00; Sat., Dec. 17 at St. Joan of Arc on Heatherdowns at 7:30; and Sun., Dec. 18 at Gesu Catholic Church at 3:00. All three concerts are identical, so pick the time that works best for you! A free will offering will be accepted.

**Maumee Community Band** – Sun., Dec. 4 at 2:00 at Maumee United Methodist Church Family Life Center. Come hear Margaret Nelson play in this band.

**Toledo PAC Band** – info on their concert will be in the Dec. newsletter. Dennis and Cathy Oehlers play in this group.

**REGULAR BUILDING USE – NOVEMBER**

Mon-Sat 12:00-1:00 Open-Minded AA Lower Education Wing

Mon. & Wed. 5:30-8:30 Twirling School Luther Hall

Tues.,Thurs.,Fri. 6:00-7:30 Basketball Luther Hall

Wed. 7:30-10:00 12 Step West Lower Education Wing

Mon-Tue-Thu 5:30-9:45 Driving School Lower Education Wing

Thurs. 7:00-8:30 Chancel Choir Sanctuary

**SPECIAL BUILDING USE – NOVEMBER**

Wednesday 11/2 7:00-9:00 Class 101 TBD

Friday 11/4 8:30-5:00 Lifeline Screenings Luther Hall

Saturday 11/5 1:00-6:00 Private Event Luther Hall

Monday 11/7 6:00-8:00 Open House for Augsburg Everywhere

Wednesday 11/9 7:00-9:00 Class 101 TBD

Saturday 11/12 8:00a-10:00p TCS Dinner Luther Hall

Sunday 11/3 2:00-8:00 Private Event Luther Hall

Wednesday 11/23 10:00-10:00 Private Event Luther Hall

Thursday 11/24 10:00-10:00 Private Event Luther Hall

Monday 11/28 All Day WELCA Luther Hall

Tuesday 11/29 All Day WELCA Luther Hall

Wednesday 11/30 7:00-9:00 Class 101 TBD

Christmas Day is booked for the entire day also.

IN OUR PRAYERS

**Home:** Jack Robinson, Rob Young, Karen & Mike Isbell, Tom Hillesheim, Joanna Ranes, Molly Brown & family, Carole Haugh, John Kusz, Bethany Collier, Freider Kempf, Carol & Chuck Dolt, Corinne Oliger, Marcia Conn, Bill & Mary Ann McDermott, Art Schroeder, Julie Boesenhofer, Randy Collier, Judy & Al Schaarschmidt, John Bailiff, Sandy & Steve Drake, Larry Matzinger, Gloria DeMerritt, Lori Knous, Lydia Latsch, Jan Leonard, Colleen Krebser.

**Hospitals/Care Centers:** Char Bowlus (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Libby Ketterman (Swan Creek); Pastor Nick Mays (Charter Senior Living of Oak Openings); Michael Morrin.

**Family And Friends:** Lara Fye, Bill French; Carol Weatherly; James Whitaker; Todd Ellenberger, Nephew Of Chuck & Jan Ellenberger; David; Debbie Layer, Friend Of Linda Weaver; Sue & Gary Faber; Mike Lindecker; Mia Obernesser; Cara, George Seigert; Margaret Schonter; Jeff Nease, Jr.; Deb Smokel; Rev. Phil Rittner; Pattie Webber; Andrea Wellman; Nolan Vacek, Son Of Debbie Szych; Scott Matzinger, Son Of Larry; Bonnie Unisko, Sister Of Bill McDermott & Steve Kern, Son-in-law Of Bill & Mary Ann; Lisa Titkemeier; Andrea Wellman; Nate, Gracie & Family; Jessica Sweet, Daughter Of Linda & John Bailiff; Tracy Taylor, Brother Of Sharon Taylor-Ansted; Pat, Jenny, Hunter, Tom & Teri, Linda & Fritz, Don, Dennis, Al, Bryan & Lisa, David, Kim, Naomi & Delano, Lou & Barbie; Lou Galambos; Cindy Bemis, Sister Of Frank Weaver, Lou Bernardino, Pastor Christine Day; Janice Blazey; Sandy, Sister Of John Bailiff; Kelly; Andrew & Terri Anton; Leah Bennett; Brooke Nadolny.

In the military: Roy Oberhaus, Bill Myers, Ashley and Jason Weatherly, Kyle Dietrich, Kyle Mikolajczyk, Kayla Fowler, Sean Ray, Logan Hillesheim, Chris, Tyler Coulter, Pete Christoff, Nicholas Kerchvall, Andrea Perry

**November Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**Birthdays: Anniversaries**

Nov. 5 Linda Bailiff Nov. 3 Paul & Tricia Haase

 7 Carol Rude 9 Amanda & Corey Modrowski

 19 JulieAnn Boesenhofer

 21 Rob Young

 27 Mark Jaques

 29 Kaylee Modrowski

**Bible Readings for November**

1 Jude 5-21 16 Matthew 23:37-24:14

2 Luke 19:11-27 17 Hebrews 9:23-28

3 Acts 22:22-23:11 18 1 Peter 1:3-9

4 Acts 24:10-23 19 Luke 18:15-17

5 Luke 20:1-8 20 Luke 23:33-43

6 Luke 6:20-31 21 Revelation 21:5-27

7 2 Peter 1:16-21 22 Revelation 22:8-21

8 2 John 1-13 23 Luke 1:1-4

9 John 5:19-29 24 John 6:25-35

10 Romans 1:18-25 25 Hebrews 11:1-7

11 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12 26 Matthew 24:1-22

12 Luke 17:20-37 27 Matthew 24:36-44

13 Luke 21:5-19 28 Romans 6:1-11

14 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 29 Hebrews 11:32-40

15 1 Corinthians 10:23-11:1 30 Matthew 24:23-35

**Poinsettias for Christmas**

It is time to place your order for poinsettia plants for Christmas 2022. These plants help add a special touch to our Christmas Eve service. Please consider purchasing 1 or more plants. The deadline for turning your order in is Sunday, Nov. 20. Payment must be included with order.

No. of 7 ½” pot @ $20 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Red)

Amount Enclosed $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE **PRINT** **EXACTLY**, AND CLEARLY, WHAT YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR IN THE CHRISTMAS EVE BULLETIN.

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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